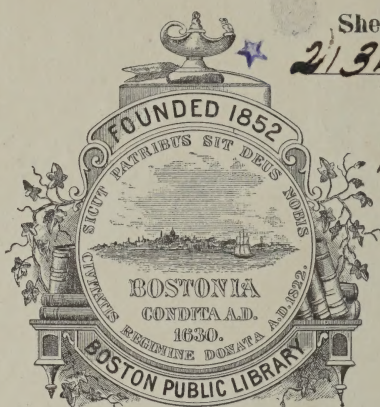
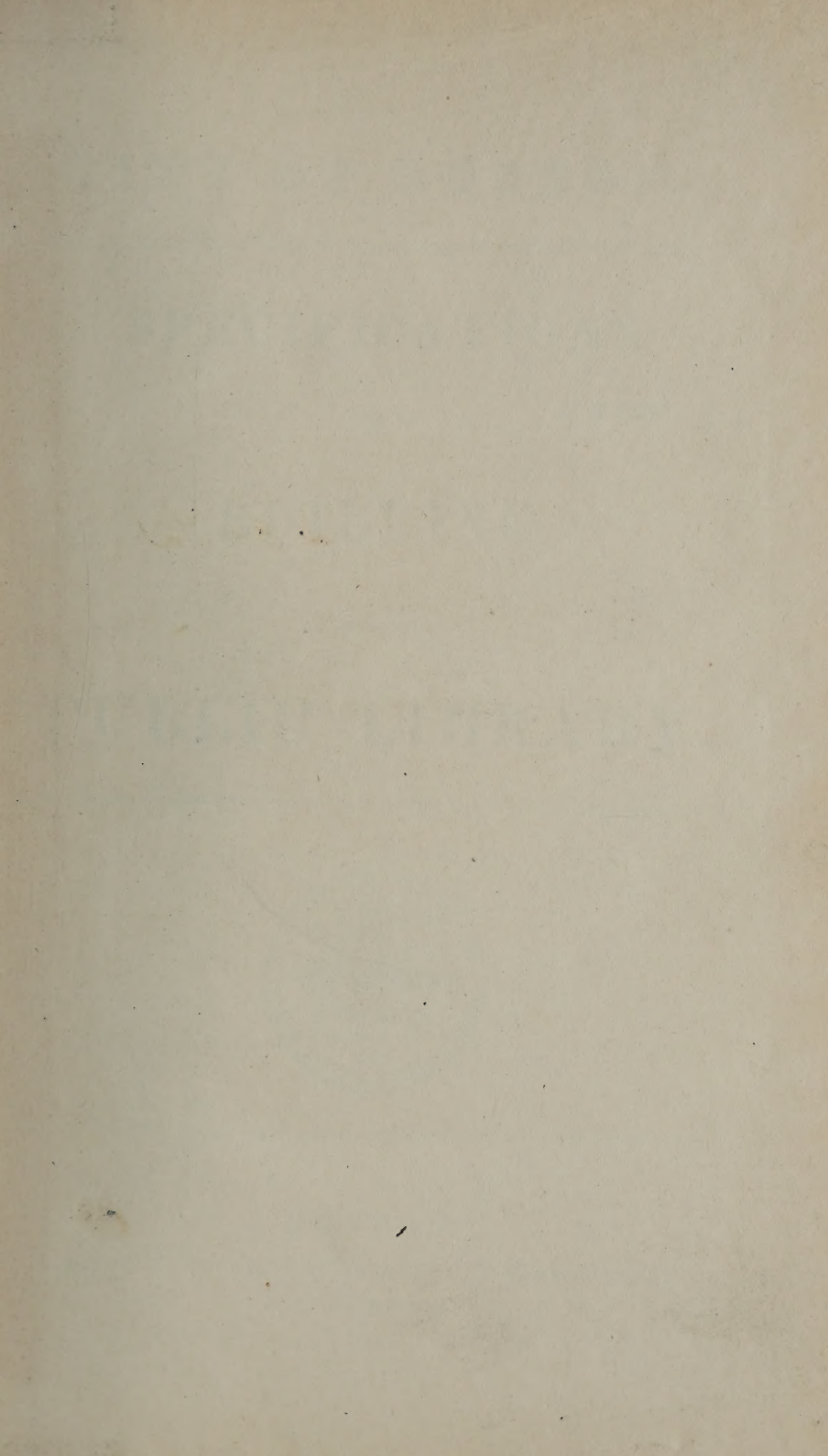




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CITY OF BOSTON.

SPECIFICATIONS

FOR A

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BUILDING

FOR THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY.



BOSTON:

MOORE & CROSBY, CITY PRINTERS, 1 WATER STREET.

1856.

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B. F.

Dec. 4. 1893

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Specifications of materials to be provided, and labor to be performed, in finishing and completing the building located on Boylston street, for the Public Library of the city of Boston, in accordance with plans and working drawings prepared by C. K. Kirby, architect, for the Commissioners appointed by the City Government, for the erection of said building.

DESCRIPTION.

The building is rectangular, eighty-two feet wide by one hundred and sixteen feet long, with two towers fourteen feet six inches by eighteen feet, one at each rear corner of building. The basement is eleven feet high in clear to spring of groined arches; first story twenty-one feet six inches high; principal story is fifty-two feet high in clear. The first floor is constructed with groined arches. Principal and basement floors and floors of alcoves in principal hall are constructed with iron girders and beams, with segmental arches turned between beams. The first floor is divided into five apartments by brick walls, and designated as follows, viz.: General Reading Room, Special Reading Room, Vestibule, Conversation Room, and Circulating Library Room, all are twenty-one feet six inches high, except Conversation Room, which is twelve feet high, and has an intermediate story

or room over it nine feet high in clear, and will finish thirty-four feet square, besides closets, &c.

The Conversation Room is thirty-four by fifty feet; General Reading Room is twenty-seven by seventy-eight feet; Special Reading Room is twenty-seven by forty-four feet; Vestibule is twenty-two by forty-four feet; Circulating Library Room is thirty-four by seventy-eight feet. The principal story is appropriated as follows, viz.: hall or clear space thirty-eight by eighty-six feet, with thirty alcoves arranged on each side, nine by fourteen feet in clear and twelve feet high each, with three stories of corridors on each end, to correspond with alcoves in height. The west tower is six stories high, one story same height of basement, two stories in height of first story, and three in height of principal story, floors to correspond with gallery floors; all to be full size of tower. The east tower is to be used as a stair-case and hoisting-way. The principal divisions of basement are the same size as those described in first floor.

CARPENTERS' AND JOINERS' WORK.

All ceilings throughout the building, except the basement ceiling, to be furred for five nailings to a lath. All panel work to be recessed or raised as indicated by drawings. All the arches in principal hall, both circular and elliptical, also the coved part of ceiling in lantern, and both reading-rooms, to be furred according to plans, with good sound seasoned stock, solid and true corners in all parts. All windows throughout the building to be double hung with weights and pulleys, except those in lantern, which are to be single hung; all frames to be made as per plan, with the best of sea-

soned clear pine stock, with best hard pine pulley-stiles and cherry beads, and trimmed with Robinson's brass-faced, steel-axle pulleys, and round-headed white metal screws, for securing stop beads.

The sashes are to be made of the best seasoned clear pine stock, with heavy rims and filling, two inches thick, made in ogee style, hung with best hemp cord, and trimmed with sash fasts worth six dollars per dozen. All windows in Janitor's apartments and west tower, to be finished with jambs, stool-casings and architraves as per plan. All windows in first and principal story to be finished with iron stool-casings and pedestals, and stucco architraves; all windows in east tower to be finished with iron stool-casings and brick jambs. All windows in west tower and the six large windows in principal hall are to be finished with inside folding blinds one inch thick, hung and trimmed in a proper manner. All doors throughout the building to be cased and finished with wood. All doors in first story, except front doors, to be made of the best quality of thoroughly seasoned chestnut, two and three-fourths inches thick, with heavy panel-work as per plan, hung and trimmed with trimmings worth an average of ten dollars a pair, or five dollars for single door. The front doors to be made of solid oak of the very best quality, five inches thick, with heavy panel and carved work as per plan, and hung and trimmed with trimmings worth ten dollars each, to be made in two parts in thickness, firmly glued together. All other doors about the building to be made of best pine stock, thoroughly seasoned and kiln-dried, and of size as shown by plans, one and seven-eighths inch thick, moulded both sides,

hung and trimmed with trimmings worth three dollars per door.

The Janitor's apartments and rooms in west tower to be finished with base and mouldings as per plan. All water-closets, wash-bowls, and urinals to be finished as directed by the architect, with best quality of seasoned cherry wood. The floors of general and special reading-room and circulating library room are to be laid with the best quality of southern pine floor boards, laid on 2×2 joist, bedded in cement and placed fourteen inches from centres, no boards to exceed three inches in width, all to be matched, blind nailed, and neatly smoothed off. The floors of Janitor's apartments, and all rooms in west tower, and the floor in galleries of principal library room, to be laid of southern pine floor-boards, the same as described above, excepting that they may be from five to six inches wide, and not matched. There are to be two dumb-waiters, furnished and hung in complete working order, for size and location see plan; one is to be constructed to run from basement floor to upper tier of alcoves in principal hall, and the other to run from circulating library-room to the first floor of principal hall.

The grand stair-case to be finished with a mahogany rail, made six and one half inches wide and five deep, of the best of St. Domingo mahogany, put up as per plan, and neatly polished. The rear stair-case to be finished with cherry rail four by two and a half inches, properly secured to balusters and posts. The intermediate story or room over conversation room is to be finished with wood; the floor is of iron.

All stock used in finishing the building to be of the

best quality, thoroughly seasoned and where required kiln-dried, put up in a neat, strong and substantial manner, according to plans and directions to be given by the architect. The carpenter will be required to do all cutting, fitting and boxing for gas and water pipes. The coal bins under sidewalk are to be finished with partitions, doors, gates, &c., as shall be directed by the architect.

PLASTERING AND STUCCO WORK.

All walls, ceilings, and partitions, throughout the building, except the walls of east tower, and walls of basement not occupied by Janitor, to be plastered with two good coats of lime and hair mortar, well rubbed down, the ceilings finished with one good smooth coat of white hard finish, and the walls with one good coat of white hard finish in marble dust. The vestibule is to be finished on sides with diminished Corinthian pilasters, with full cap and base supporting arches with ornamental archivaults and key-stones. The cornice to be a full rich modillion. The ceiling to be deep sunk square panels, as per plan. The two round columns at rear end of vestibule, to be finished to correspond with pilasters on sides, in scagliola with paneled soffits to arches. The dado and pedestals to be of white marble. The landings and skirtings of stairs to be finished as per plan with panels, arches, brackets, &c. The cornice of reading-rooms to be curved and paneled as per plan, with two ornaments. The moulding-work on ceiling to be raised and recessed as per plan, with two ornaments. The entablature of iron columns to be constructed in stucco as per plan. The ceiling of conversation and circulating library rooms to be finished

with plain cornice and plain raised panels, the columns in principal hall to be three-quarters full Corinthian columns, with stucco caps, and bases supporting arches with paneled soffits, ornamental archivaults and key-stones, the arches supporting an architrave band, frieze and dental cornice with four enrichments. The walls of lantern to be coved and finished with enriched ribs and pendant drops; the jambs and soffits of windows to be paneled. The elliptical arches in front of gallery floors to be paneled, faces and soffits with ornamental brackets and key-stones. The ceiling to be finished with plain raised and recessed panels with one ornament as per plan; all ceilings in alcoves in principal story to be plastered and have a plain cornice, those in first story to have plain raised panels.

MARBLE WORK.

All base mouldings and plinth in reading-rooms and conversation room, and the plinths, skirtings, newel posts and pedestals in vestibule and around grand staircase, and the pedestals for columns in principal hall to be made of the best American white marble, according to plans and working drawings to be given by the Architect, all to be neatly polished and properly set. The floor in vestibule to be tiled with white octagon marble tiles, and small, square black corners. The conversation room floor to be tiled with plain alternate black and white marble tiles, fourteen inches square. The principal hall floor, including floor in first story of alcoves, to be laid with plain dark and white hexagon marble tiles sixteen inches diameter, all to be made of the best quality of American marble, and laid

in the most approved, thorough and workmanlike manner, according to plans and directions to be given by the architect. All book-cases in circulating library room and alcoves in principal hall to be separated from wooden floors by a marble border six inches wide.

IRON WORK.

The grand stair-case is to be made of cast iron, and built on solid brick work, arranged as per plan and detail drawings, the steps to be fourteen inches wide when finished, and one half inch thick, corrugated and to have moulded nosings; the risers to be six and a half inch rise when finished, three-eighths inch thick, with panel fronts. The balusters and skirtings to be ornamented as per plan, all to be put up in a strong and thorough manner, the steps and risers to be bedded in cement. The gallery for alcoves in circulating library room to be made with wrought-iron bearers, two and a half by one-half inch, placed three feet six inches apart, properly secured to brick walls and columns, and covered with corrugated cast iron plates one-half inch thick. The balcony railing in front to be open work, wrought and cast iron as per plan. The balcony railings and fence in front of alcoves in main hall to be made of wrought and cast iron; patterns to be as per plans and directions to be given by the architect. Six flights of full circular light wrought and cast iron stairs five feet six inches in diameter to be placed in alcoves, to extend from floor of principal hall to upper tier of alcoves, and one flight from basement to principal hall, five feet six inches in diameter, and three flights in circulating library room, to extend from floor to gallery,

five feet in diameter, designs to be given by the architect; also a wrought iron railing of fancy pattern to be placed around all well-holes not occupied by stairs in gallery of principal hall. The inside window-sills, surbase and pedestals, for architrave, in reading and circulating library rooms and in principal hall, and the inside stool-casings for all windows in basement and east tower, to be made of cast iron, from one-fourth to three-eighths inch thick, formed, fitted, and put up according to plans and directions to be given by architect.

All windows and doors on sides of building to be furnished with outside wrought iron shutters made of $\frac{3}{16}$ sheet iron, placed upon frames made of $2 \times \frac{1}{2}$ inch iron, hung with heavy strap-hinges, and fastened with lever cross-bars and iron turn buttons.

Cast iron sky-light sash-frames to be made and properly set for all sky-lights in exterior alcoves on sides of building, according to plans and directions to be given. Wrought iron grating to be placed over area in front of building, as per plan, made of $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{8}$ inch, placed 1 inch apart, and properly fitted and leaded in its place.

GAS PIPES.

Gas pipes of proper size to be placed in building as follows, viz.: the reading rooms are to be fitted for two brackets on each column. The vestibule to be fitted for one chandelier on each newel post, one pendant drop and two side brackets. The conversation room to be fitted for three pendant drops and four side brackets. The circulating library room is to be fitted for one bracket on each column. The principal hall is to

be fitted for sixty brackets, to be located in key-stone of elliptical arches. All rooms in west tower are to be fitted for one pendant each. The basement is to be fitted for twelve drop-lights and six brackets, located where directed by architect. The east tower is to be fitted for one bracket in each story. The room over conversation room to be fitted for four drop-lights and two brackets. Each water-closet and dressing-room to be fitted for one bracket. The front of building, along balcony course, to be fitted for six outlets, for exterior lights. All of the above pipes to be subject to the inspection and approval of the Boston Gas Company's inspector, and of the architect.

PLUMBING.

Four water-closets, two wash-bowls, and one double urinal, to be located under principal stair-case as per plan; also one water-closet, urinal, and sink to be under rear stair-case, in east tower; also one water-closet, one wash-bowl and urinal located on principal floor, near east tower; also one wash-bowl and urinal on principal floor near west tower. One wash-bowl in circulating library room, and two iron sinks to be in basement as per plan. All of the above water-closets are to be the best quality of china pan closets. All urinals are to be china, large size. All bowls are to be plain marbled china, and furnished with silver-plated draw and waste cocks worth five dollars each, and finished with marble tops and border slabs of large size, highly polished. All soil pipes, for closets, to be six inches diameter, made of six lbs. lead, strongly secured in their position and carried to drains. All supply pipes for

water-closets and sinks to be made three-fourths inch diameter, two and a half lbs. pipe; branches for bowls and urinals to be five-eighths inch two lbs. pipe; waste pipes for bowls, sinks, &c., to be one and one-half inch three lbs. pipe. All bowl closets are to be lined underneath with four lbs. sheet lead, turned up on all sides, and provided with waste pipes; the sinks in cellar to be furnished with heavy hose bib-cocks. And finally the plumber will be expected to furnish the best quality of all kinds of materials, including cisterns, if required, and do all work required to put in complete operation the above described lot of plumbing, under direction of the architect.

GLASS AND GLAZING.

All window sashes in front of building to be filled with best white English or French plate glass. All sashes on sides and rear of first story and rear of principal hall to be filled with first quality double thick German glass. All sashes in basement, both towers, and lantern to be filled with first quality of single German glass. All sky-light sashes on sides, over first story, to be filled with ribbed sky-light glass three-sixteenths inch thick. The glass in cornice of reading rooms to be best quality of German glass, ground and formed to fit coving; those in ceiling of intermediate story, and in circulating library to be same as stated above, but straight; all to be thoroughly bedded, securely tinned, and neatly puttied off.

PAINTING.

All wrought wood work and all iron work inside and out to be painted three coats, best white lead and French zinc and oil, well rubbed down between coats, except hard wood doors and hard wood work around water-closets, bowls, urinals, &c., and hard pine work. The oak doors are to have three good coats of best quality of boiled linseed oil. The cherry wood work around plumbing to be well oiled and rubbed down, and to have two coats best coach varnish. All sashes are to be stained inside dark cherry color, and varnished two coats; all pulley stiles of window frames to be oiled two coats, cherry beads to be varnished two coats. All pine doors and pine wood work in dressing rooms, around dumb waiters, &c., to be grained in oil colors, and varnished two coats. The window frames on front of building to be grained and varnished, or sanded, as the architect shall direct. The balusters in balcony in front of building to be sanded two coats free-stone color. The balusters and skirtings in principal stair-case, and all balconies and stair-cases in principal hall, and columns in reading rooms, to be bronzed with copper bronze where directed by the architect. All hard pine floors are to be oiled two coats best boiled oil. The facings of all book-cases to be grained or stained and varnished; shelves are not to be painted. The interior of all walls in east tower to be painted three coats. All colors to be as directed by the architect.

WORKS.

The contractors are to perform, execute, finish and complete all the works of every kind described or referred to in these specifications ; they are also to perform, execute, finish and complete all works of every kind that are shown, indicated, or in any way expressed, or implied by the several drawings and working plans, made and to be made, from time to time, (during the progress of the erection of the building) by the architect aforesaid ; it being understood that all explanations of the proper meaning and intention of these Specifications and the several drawings and working plans, are to be given to the contractors by the architect, under the direction of the Commissioners. As the works are ready to be commenced, the said contractors are to apply to the Commissioners for such working plans and explanations before commencing the several works of the building, from time to time, as may be needed for their instruction, the architect being allowed a reasonable time to furnish the same ; the Commissioners reserving the right to alter the plans and specifications by omissions and additions to the same, without, in any way, altering the validity of any original contract, in which case the value of such changes, additions or omissions shall be estimated and determined by the architect only. The entire works are to be executed in a faithful and thorough manner, to the satisfaction of the Commissioners aforesaid.

MATERIALS.

They are to be of the kinds and qualities herein specified, and when not particularly stipulated, then, the kinds used by the contractors must be the best marketable qualities.

The entire materials used, are to be prepared, worked, furnished, put together, set up and finished at the sole cost of the contractors, to the satisfaction of the Commissioners, and under the superintendence of the Architect.

PROPOSALS

Are to be sealed and directed to the Commissioners, endorsed "Proposals for finishing the building for the Public Library," and handed to the clerk of said Commissioners, at the Public Library, in Mason street, previous to twelve o'clock, at noon, of the 20th day of May, A. D. eighteen hundred and fifty-six, after which time no bids will be received. The Commissioners reserve to themselves the right to reject any or all of the proposals received under this notice, if in their judgment it is not for the interest of the City to accept the same.

In making bids for the above work, the commissioners require them to be made for the several branches separately, viz: For furnishing materials and doing all carpenter and joiner work: For furnishing all glass and doing all painting and glazing: For furnishing and setting all marble work: For furnishing and setting all iron work: For furnishing all materials and doing all plaster and stucco work: For furnishing and putting in all gas pipes: and for furnishing all materials and doing all plumbing work.

